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HOLYOKE theSun

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HOLYOKE – 2020 has been a challenging year to say the least! But it's almost over. A pandemic can't stop us from keeping kids and adults engaged in fun and educational pursuits. That will always be the goal for the library and we couldn't do it without you! Our Grab and Go bags and other children's programming was funded by donors like you.

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LIBRARY, 9

Tighe & Bondé finalist for award

HOLYOKE – The American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts (ACEC/MA) has named Tighe & Bondé as a finalist of their 2020 Engineering Excellence Award for their transformation of the Mt. Tom coal-fired power plant into the state of Massachusetts' Largest Community Solar and Energy Storage Facility.

The 2020 Engineering Excellence Awards were recently announced and will be celebrated at the 2021 ACEC/MA Engineering Excellence and Awards Gala. The awards celebrate innovation, ingenuity, and excellence in engineering achievement.

AWARD, 9

Meals to be distributed during holiday break

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Public Schools will still be distributed during the holiday break. Please note that due to the holiday break from Dec. 24 to Jan. 4, food distribution days will be on Monday, Dec. 28 and Wednesday, Dec. 30. Monday pickup will include Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday meals and Wednesday pickup will include Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday meals. The distribution times and locations will remain the same. The schedule will return to the regular Monday, Wednesday, and Friday distribution days starting on Monday, Jan. 4.

Council passes FY21 tax rates

By **Gregory A. Scibelli**
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – It took several hours, but the Holyoke City Council has settled on a balanced budget and thus a tax rate for 2021.

Despite having stabilization funds and finding some savings in other areas, Holyoke's tax rate will be \$19.28 per \$1,000 valuation of residential property. The commercial rate will become the highest in the region, set at \$40.65 per \$1,000 valuation on business properties.

Despite the high tax rate, Holyoke has been moderately successful at bringing in some new businesses during the past several years.

Holyoke City Councilors met for several hours at a special meeting held last Friday afternoon to agree on the new tax rate. The meeting was needed

because the regular council meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 15 did not yield an agreement on balancing the budget.

At last week's meeting, Mayor Alex Morse presented a number of scenarios to the council, including the ability to remove transportation funding from the Holyoke Public Schools that was not being used to the pandemic and the full remote learning model Holyoke has used for the first half of the year.

With the loss of certain revenues, Holyoke was looking at a budget deficit of about \$883,000, Morse reported. He estimated just under \$2 million would be lost in local receipts from the pandemic, but said city services have overall not been affected.

City councilors were

See COUNCIL, page 9

COVID numbers rising in city

By **Gregory A. Scibelli**
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – After a couple of weeks of lowering COVID-19 infection rates, the city was reported to have a rise in that rate last week.

Updated statistics from the Department of Public Health are typically released every Thursday. Last Thursday, more than 150 communities were in the red, or high-risk category for COVID-19 spread, which has led to even further restrictions being put in place by Gov. Charlie Baker.

Among the new restrictions reported on Tuesday were lower capacities for "most businesses" including restaurants. The businesses must run at approximately 25 percent capacity. Indoor gatherings are now limited to just 10 people.

With Holyoke having a large mall, it remains to be seen

what will happen to business at the mall on Dec. 26, typically a busy day there because of the number of returns that take place on the day after Christmas.

According to state numbers, Holyoke reports an average daily incidence rate of 83.8 cases per 100,000 people. There have been a total of 477 new cases of COVID-19 during the last 14 days. In Holyoke, there have been a total of 2,557 cases during the overall pandemic. This means nearly 20 percent of Holyoke's cases have been reported in the last two weeks.

While Holyoke's numbers overall have been lower than other larger cities in the state, Holyoke has remained in the red with a 7.46 percent positive test rate in the last 14 days.

The updated COVID-19

See COVID, page 9



Left, attendees on foot could walk to see the ice sculptures while cars were able to slow down drive past. Center, Nayroby Rosa-Soriano of OneHolyoke set up the outdoor fifth annual dinner, and helped to hand out bagged dinners and donated poinsettias to those using the drive through option. Left, Smaller sponsors received and inflatable decoration to represent they help they've provided for the event.

Photos by Shelby Macri

OneHolyoke holds community dinner in a new way

By **Shelby Macri**
smacri@turley.com

HOLYOKE – OneHolyoke held their fifth annual dinner in a way that was safe for volunteers and attendees in order to be able to still put on the event for families.

The OneHolyoke Director of Community Engagement and Residential Services, Nayroby Rosa-Soriano put on the whole event and has been

planning with a team for three months. The planning board for the event worked diligently to arrange two separate areas for those who came to the event on foot, and those who chose to visit via drive through.

There were about 50 people signed up to volunteer, allowing a schedule to be set up for volunteer shifts. Volunteers came for hour or so long shifts so that they limited their time there, additionally there were

two separate stations with bagged meals to keep people separate. Each volunteer wore a mask and many people were wearing decorative accessories like hats, head bands, and scarves to get into the spirit during the event. Volunteers included Rosa-Soriano herself and the Vice President of the South Holyoke Neighborhood Association, Gerardo Torres who helped to hand out bagged meals and donated poinsettias

to families that came by on foot.

Typically, OneHolyoke will put on the community dinner with live music and entertainment, as well as providing a buffet style Latino holiday dinner. Because this event is typically held indoors and there are strict gathering rules due to COVID-19, there wasn't an option to hold the dinner as usual.

See DINNER, page 6



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In The News

HPS issues update for return in-person learning

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Public Schools issued a statement regarding the return of in-person learning: Providing all our students with the best learning model possible while prioritizing the health, safety, and well-being of all students and staff is our top priority. We will continue to use the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) reopening guidance and partner with the Holyoke Board of Health to monitor our local health data and use this information to slowly bring more students back to in-person learning in a hybrid model (a combination of in person and remote learning). Please note, students who are currently enrolled in Cohort C for 4 days a week will remain on the 4-days/week schedule.

Students in preschool and Kindergarten who have selected to participate in the hybrid model will be assigned to Cohort C and will attend school four days a week: Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday. Due to our current class sizes and room configurations, it is not possible to bring back all students for learning 5 days a week and still maintain physical distancing protocols, so grades 1-12 will be in a hybrid schedule (two days of in-person learning per week). We will phase into our hybrid model on a staggered schedule, prioritizing our youngest students first. The current plan is to return students in preschool through grade 2 starting on January 21, 2021, Grades 3-5 and grade 9 starting on February 4, 2021 with the remaining grade levels grade 6 through 8 and 10-12 returning February 25, 2021. Target start dates are not finalized, they are dates that we are planning for with the understanding that they might have to shift based on current health data.

In the hybrid model, approximately half of the students will be in school at a time. Students will participate in one of the following 4 cohorts within the hybrid model.

• Cohort A will attend school in-person on Mondays and Tuesdays and have guided remote learning on Thursdays and

Fridays.

• Cohort B will have guided remote learning on Mondays and Tuesdays and will attend school in-person on Thursdays and Fridays.

• Cohort C will continue to attend school in-person four days a week. Cohort C is designed to meet the needs of high need students who require specialized instruction. Cohort C students are already attending school in person for four days per week.

• Wednesdays are full remote learning days for all students assigned to Cohort A, B, or C. Deep cleaning will occur in all schools in the district on Wednesdays.

• Cohort D is for students who will continue to participate fully in remote learning.

• Families who are participating in Cohort A, B, or C, please be aware of new state vaccination requirements. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health now requires the influenza vaccine for all students enrolled in child care, Pre-school, K-12, and post-secondary schools beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. Students who will participate in in-person learning as part of the hybrid model are required to provide updated vaccination records to the school nurse prior to returning to in-person learning.

• We ask that families provide input into our planning by sharing whether they want their children to participate in full remote learning or hybrid learning. All families were recently asked to complete a survey to gather this information. Information gathered through these surveys will help inform the planning process. Further details outlining our hybrid model will be shared in the coming weeks as we approach our target entry dates for each grade band.

Please direct any questions to returntoschool@hps.holyoke.ma.us. We appreciate your patience and partnership throughout our planning process. To answer questions our families may have, we will host a Zoom Webinar on Tuesday, December 22nd from 5:00-5:45 pm.

HG&E offers discounted and fuel assistance

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Gas & Electric Commission has granted an extra 10 percent prompt payment discount on energy services billed during the December billing cycle. In addition, HG&E has a variety of resources that can assist customers who are facing financial hardship, including payment plans, energy efficiency programs, and connections to fuel assistance programs.

"HG&E is pleased to offer our customers an additional discount during the holidays, especially this year," said HG&E Manager James Lavelle. "We understand many customers are facing difficult and uncertain times, we are here to help."

For the average homeowner who heats with natural gas, the combined discounts (prompt payment and holiday discount) amount to savings of approximately \$58 on their bill. HG&E has implemented a holiday discount each year since 1992. This discount applies to commercial and residential gas and electricity customers who are not already participating in an economic development discount program.

Many utility customers are facing uncertain times due to the pandemic; we are encouraging these customers to contact Valley Opportunity Council (VOC) to learn more about their Fuel Assistance Program that can assist eligible applicants in paying their fuel bills. This year, VOC has made it easy to apply remotely. Call (413) 552-1548 or email fuelassistance@valleyopp.com.

In addition, HG&E's customer service staff is available to discuss payment plans and energy efficiency opportunities, helping customers manage their monthly energy costs.

"All of us here at HG&E offer our best wishes for a warm and bright holiday season," said Jim Lavelle.

For more information please contact, Kate Sullivan Craven at (413) 536-9333 or ksullivan@hged.com.

HCC-MRC program trains disabled for cybersecurity jobs

HOLYOKE – Not long ago, Aidan Burke was working in a local supermarket, making pizza for minimum wage. It was not a job he believed held much promise for him.

Life has changed a lot since then for the 29-year-old Northampton resident.

In February, Burke started a free, intensive cybersecurity training program for people with disabilities offered by Holyoke Community College and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. Ten months later, he is now poised to begin a career as a cybersecurity analyst.

"I liked working at Big Y and I could pay my bills, but there was nothing I could really do with that," he said. "Now I'm looking at positions that have salaries and benefits. That's a big change for me. It's fantastic. This class has just opened so many doors. It's life-altering or at least has the potential to be."

Already, Burke has started an internship with NetWerks Strategic Services, an Agawam-based technology company. In recent weeks, he has interviewed for full-time benefitted positions at the Massachusetts Educational Collaborative and the Dept. of Youth Services. He is also a candidate for a summer internship with MassMutual.

"The opportunities are just so much bigger and better than what I had before," he said. "I was kind of floundering a bit in terms of direction in my life, and now I have an opportunity to move up in the world."

Burke and his 14 classmates completed the Cisco Academy Cybersecurity Training program on Dec. 10. They graduated Dec. 18, having passed their exams as Cisco Certified Network Associates and Cisco Certified Cyber-Operations Associates.

"Mass Rehab has been very happy with the success of the students academically," said Kermit Dunkelberg, HCC assistant vice president of Adult Basic Education and Workforce Development. "Ultimately, the goal is to get them placed in jobs, and we're very optimistic because these students are very well prepared."

The HCC-MRC cybersecurity training program was the first of its kind in the state. Based on the success of the pilot, MRC initiated a second program in September in collaboration with Roxbury Community College and has begun recruiting for a second class at HCC that will begin in February.

"Together we are re-envisioning employment and people's lives," said MRC Commissioner Toni Wolf. "In the wake of COVID-19, our perspective on what is possible for remote work is expanding on a daily basis, particularly how resilient and adaptive people with disabilities are and the transformative thinking on the future of work. These Cisco certifications are nationally recognized and highly sought-after workplace credentials that will give these students

the needed leverage to enter a high paying industry."

For the first month of training, classes met in the cybersecurity lab in HCC's Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development. In March, though, they moved onto Zoom as COVID-19 forced a shift to remote instruction. HCC and MRC provided laptops for students to use at home, and Cisco provided access to online simulation platforms that mimicked the "hands-on" parts of the training.

"There were many challenges, all overcome," said HCC professor Dalip Singh, a Cisco-certified cybersecurity instructor. "We modified everything we were doing many times. The students were all very dedicated and hardworking."

Students qualified for the program through their involvement with MRC. Burke was recommended by his caseworker. Candidates were screened and then took an entrance exam to make sure they could handle the material and the workload.

Classes met four days a week, Monday through Thursday from about 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Singh said the students were also required to put in several hours of additional self-study on Fridays.

Given today's reliance on computer technology and remote access to internal networks during the pandemic, the cybersecurity field is more important than ever, said Singh.

Cybersecurity analysts are network watchdogs, monitoring network activity, tracking alerts, guarding against cyber-attacks and looking out for abnormal network behavior. They fix security problems, restore compromised systems, pinpoint conflicts, and collect evidence of criminal activity in the event of an intentional breach or legal proceeding.

"Cyber crime is up 600 percent due to the pandemic," HCC president Christina Royal said Friday during a graduation ceremony held over Zoom. There are a lot of bad actors looking to exploit network vulnerabilities with costs estimated at \$6 trillion in 2021. Cybersecurity is an important area that companies are needing and investing in."

Program graduates qualify for jobs as tier 1 cybersecurity analysts. Although that is considered entry level, they can still expect to earn between \$25 and \$35 an hour to start and up to \$80,000 to \$100,000 or more a year as they advance.

"Most of the times they will be working in an IT department as part of a team of cybersecurity experts," said Singh. "They could be employed by a cybersecurity company that provides services to customers."

Beyond the training itself, students in the program received a \$200 stipend for general expenses, career counseling and assistance with job placement.

Like many of his classmates, Burke has struggled with a number of issues,

including anxiety as well as depression, PTSD, and ADHD. "Just a tough combination of things," he said, that made it tough at times just to get out of bed in the morning.

"I didn't feel motivated, because I didn't have a goal," he said.

Now he does.

"This class helped a lot with that," he said. "I felt I really had something to do that was going to help me."

Burke said he's grateful to Mass Rehab for recommending him for the program and for putting him in a class with others who shared and understood

his struggles. It was a big confidence builder for all of them.

"People with disabilities don't necessarily get the same opportunities as others," said Burke. "There's a stigma to it, and Mass Rehab is out there trying to erase that and show that we have value. That's what I really appreciate about them. They don't care about our labels and what's happened in our past. They just want to get us into a position where we can be fully functioning members of society and feel more useful."

"It's certainly happening with me," he said, "and it feels great."

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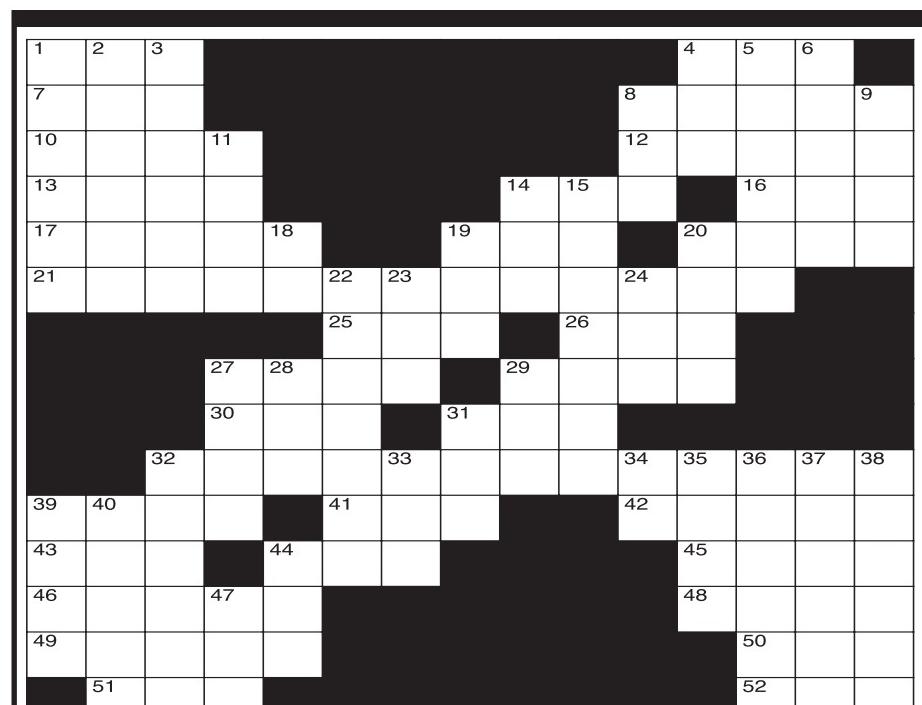
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Crow species
- 4. Partner to flow
- 7. Male offspring
- 8. Sedate
- 10. Orange beverage
- 12. Pair of small hand drums
- 13. 12th month of Jewish civil year
- 14. Former Pirates star Jason
- 16. Computer company
- 17. Made angry
- 19. Beverage container
- 20. Charlize Theron film "____ Flux"
- 21. Localities
- 25. Consume
- 26. Don't know when yet
- 27. Bed style
- 29. Make a low,
- 32. Association
- 39. Prejudice
- 41. Unhealthy
- 42. Hasidic religious leader
- 43. Distinctive philosophy
- 44. Short-term memory
- 45. In a good way
- 46. Emperors of Ethiopia
- 48. Imaginary line
- 49. Of barium
- 50. One's sense of self-esteem
- 51. Man who behaves dishonorably
- 52. Monetary unit

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Rear of (nautical)
- 2. He minds the net
- 3. Ring-shaped objects
- 4. When you hope to get there
- 5. Young children
- 6. Beloved hobbit
- 8. Pigpen
- 9. Wish harm upon
- 11. Quick-eyed (Scottish)
- 14. Scrooge's phrase "____ Humbug"
- 15. One more
- 18. A ballplayer who only hits
- 19. Once vital TV part
- 20. Sixth month of Jewish civil year
- 22. Advantage
- 23. Type of tree
- 24. Luke's mentor __-Wan
- 27. Life stories
- 28. Vase
- 29. Tiny
- 31. Package (abbr.)
- 32. A photog's tool
- 33. Wood
- 34. One of the six noble gases (abbr.)
- 35. Pueblo people of New Mexico
- 36. Wild goats
- 37. A way to comply
- 38. Horatio __, British admiral
- 39. Actress Leslie
- 40. Sir __ Newton
- 44. Pouch
- 47. Have already done

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 12



Aidan Burke, of Northampton, is a recent graduate of a pilot cybersecurity training program offered jointly by Holyoke Community College and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission.

Submitted photo

Opinion

Editorial

Yes, Virginia. There is a Santa Claus!

No one could have realized it back in 1897, but that's when the New York Sun published what was to become an iconic part of local journalism history. The Sun printed what is now the most widely read letter to a newspaper. It was sent by an 8-year-old New York City girl named Virginia O'Hanlon. The response to her letter by editorial writer Francis Pharcellus Church is a message of love, magic and hope. Considering this past year, we imagine many readers could use a generous serving of that next to a plate of Christmas cookies. So, here is the full text of that historic letter:

Dear Editor,

I am 8 years old.

Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so."

Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong.

They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10 thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



Poetry Corner

Merry Christmas to all

By Thomas J. Kennedy

I hope that everyone remembers a special Christmas past.
We hope the love, spirit and joy will continue to last.
We need the traditions to give balance in our life.
Well let's say - Difficult now with mobility and
Woman life cultural changes.
A genuine extended family then, Parents, Grand Parents,
Aunts, Uncles, Brothers, Sisters, Friends.
Then stability and support were there.
Some however, the alone, the invalid.
The displaced, the handicap and unseen
So give them at least a call with a smile.
Kindness is my favorite word.
It involves a mindset, word, action
And again, at least a smile.
Kindness is pure, sweet, strong, unselfish -
Compassionate, goodness, generous and unselfish too -
Someone loves you.
Kindness is the perfume for this weary world.
Share by caring.
If someone say, Happy Holidays,
I will reply, "Happy Holy Holidays."
Wishing all of you, whatever religion or faith in God,
The merriest of many Christmas's
And the happiest of Happy New Years.
Remember - The most expensive
Present is God's love,
And he gives it away free.



Guest Column

In My Backyard

By Ellenor Downer

Workers helping to transport the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree found an adult Northern saw-whet owl clinging to the tree. The tree and owl came from Oneonta to New York City, New York. The owl had no food or water during the three-day trip. It is recovering at a wildlife refuge in New York state.

The owl, now named Rockefeller, is getting fluids and "all the mice he can eat" at the wildlife center. A vet checked it over and took x-rays, but it seems to be in great condition. When ready, it will be released back into the wild.

Northern saw-whet owls are the smallest North American owl and about seven to eight inches long. These owls have yellow eyes, mottled brown feathers with a whitish facial disk and white-spotted head. Juveniles are dark brown with a cinnamon belly and a white vee between the eyes.

Saw whet owls are nocturnal and hard to see. During daylight, they roost in dense vegetation, typically at eye level and near the trunk of evergreen trees.

Female Northern saw-whet owls lay four to seven white eggs in a nest in a tree cavity or old woodpecker hole. They will also use nest boxes.

Thistle feeder

During the warm weather, a bear grabbed my thistle (niger) seed feeder. He pulled it off the hook and left it about 15 feet away. The plastic tube was crushed and the seed ports removed. There was not a single seed to be found in it. The American goldfinches and chickadees kept flying to where the feeder was.

I bought another feeder and put it out. It did not take them long to find the new feeder. American goldfinches and chickadees love the thistle seed and often three or four eat from the feed perches at once.

Canada geese

Last week, I saw a very large flock of Canada geese in a harvested cornfield. The flock had well over 100 hundred geese. They were probably on their way from Canada to the southern winter grounds.

Bluebirds

My son-in-law, Bryan, saw four bluebirds in his yard last week. He watched them come and go from one of the two bluebird houses in his Barre yard.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100 or emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com.

the Sun

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A Quote

OF NOTE

"Christmas is the season for kindling the fire of hospitality."

Washington Irving

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to thesun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to *The Sun*, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.



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In The News



Gerardo Torres and Katy Moonan help to pass out bagged dinners and donated poinsettias to those who attended the event on foot.

Photos by Shelby Macri



Larger sponsorships of the community dinner event received ice sculptures in their honor.



Each attendee received a raffle ticket with their bagged meals, where they could win a variety of prizes featured at the event.



OneHolyoke set up at the Kelly Elementary School, as they typically would do when holding the ready-made banquet style dinner in past years.

DINNER, from page 1

"I wanted to still give families something and it's always been about bringing the community together," Rosa-Soriano said. "We saw and gave food to 200 plus families last year, so I wanted to offer 300 meals to make sure anyone who needs the food will receive it."

The first 300 families to attend the community dinner received all the ingredients to make a Latino holiday dinner at home, with three options of meat to choose from. People could pick from turkey, pork shoulder, or chicken, with vegetables, rice and other ingredients included. There was also an apple pie to provide a full meal, Rosa-Soriano knows that it's not the same as the usual dinner but wanted to give families something from her and her group to the families in the community.

Some of the meat selections were donated like the pork, also some turkey's were donated by Stop&Shop for the event. Rosa-Soriano says that she bought more turkey after they were donated some, and they bought the chick in order to give families different options. Rosa-Soriano explained that their goal was to hand out food to people as quickly as possible, not only so they could keep the line running, but also to beat the upcoming snow.

"If it starts snowing it'll be great!" Rosa-Soriano said. "We're outdoors and it'll be prettier, though we are trying to beat the snow that's headed this way."

The event had 35 sponsorships for putting on the community dinner, and a few sponsors received ice sculptures and inflatable decorations in honor of their help in the event. Sponsorships of more than \$500 were given ice sculptures and sponsorships of \$300 or less were given inflatable decorations. Both were set up around the areas where people would be walking or driving through, everyone who came by the even were able to see the sculptures and inflatables.

In addition, Rosa-Soriano decorated the Kelly School in string lights, along with the park in front of the building and along the entrance for the drive through service. She also included a Christmas tree that did not light fully but still gave a sense of Christmas spirit, along with snowflake decorations and accessories worn by volunteers. Though people weren't able to linger or hang out in a group, many people had smiles on their faces while attending.

The event was free and open to everyone in the flats, they also ran a live raffle for prizes on their Facebook channel the day after the event. Prizes include gift cards to different places like BJ's and Stop & Shop, as a way to take the event one step further. Rosa-Soriano and her team did their best to make this years community dinner a good one despite the COVID setbacks, regulations, and restrictions.

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Soccer changes affected approach to game

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

REGION – The MIAA made several rule changes to the sport of soccer this past fall due to COVID-19.

It took a couple of matches for the players, coaches, and referees to get used to the new modified rules.

"It did take some time for the players to get used to the new rules. We're hoping to go back to soccer without modifications next year," said Monson girls' varsity soccer coach Eric Degnan. "The players deserve a lot of credit. You also have to give the referees a lot of credit as well. It wasn't very easy for them either."

Granby girls varsity soccer coach Robert Weaver was happy his players had the opportunity to play some matches this fall.

"The girls were very happy just to be getting together, practicing and playing soccer while following the modifications," Weaver said. "At Granby, we had great backing from the school's administration, school committee, and health department."

One of the rule changes was the elimination of throw-ins. When the ball crossed the touchline, the restart was a kick-in, which was the same as

an indirect kick. The ball was placed on the spot on the touchline where the ball went out of bounds or behind it.

Ludlow boys' varsity soccer coach Greg Kolodziey really didn't mind the elimination of throw-ins.

"We have benefitted over the years from having a player who could throw it far," Kolodziey said. "You could create more scoring chances on more restarts with the kick-in."

There were also no head balls allowed.

"I think the rule change that affected the game the most was elimination of head balls. I've never seen so many well-executed shoulder balls in my life," Kolodziey added. "But there were a lot of good scoring chances missed by all the teams due to not being allowed to head the ball."

Players were not allowed to make intentional physical contact with an opposing player.

"We always stress the importance of not committing reckless and needless fouls," Kolodziey said. "If the health situation is under control, I do think all the modified rules will be changed back next season."

Goalkeepers weren't allowed to kick, punt drop-kick, or throw the ball in the air beyond the midfield line.



Boys soccer had to do without head balls, a big part of the attack game.



Girls soccer adjusted to the modified rules of soccer, which included no throw-ins and goalies could not punt over the half line.

File photos

see how it benefitted anyone's safety and it also took a large advantage away from our team.

Our starting goalie consistently kicks the ball over half which gives us an opportunity to move the ball up field more so than other ways. Our backup goalie also has the ability to do this."

All of the high school soccer matches were played in four ten-minute quarters instead of

two twenty minutes halves.

A couple of the other rule changes were corner kicks were indirect kicks, no timeouts will be allowed, and there were no rebounds allowed on penalty kicks. Coaches, players and referees wore masks during the game.

Everyone is hoping to have a normal high school soccer season in the fall of 2021.

Several unknowns for winter sports season

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – In Western Massachusetts, winter sports are scheduled to begin in early January, but that is pending the creation of a new schedule and the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Conference forming geographic "bubble" leagues for basketball and hockey, as well as swimming.

In November, the PVIAC agreed to go ahead with winter sports, but made a number of rulings:

- Compete in a bubble that will limit contact with fewer athletes (schools).
- Start date for winter sports January 4, 2021 through February 20, 2021
- The scheduled amount of games will be: Team sports (Basketball, Swimming, Ice Hockey) 10-12 Skiing 5-6 contest
- No independent varsity contests, only those given by schedulers.

• Spectators for Indoor Games TBD.

• Out of season coaching: There will be no out of season coaching during the Winter Season

• Strongly recommend no captains practices.

With the recent rollout of a vaccine as well as a second one now in the pipeline that could accelerate the vaccination process, it is unclear if decisions made about fans will be revisited at some point.

Another decision that must be made is what schools will be participating in the winter season.

Changes that have already been made for the season include the addition of Southwick to the winter ranks. Southwick's school committee did not allow the school to participate in the fall season, but has agreed to support the winter season. Southwick has boys and girls basketball as well as ice hockey.

See WINTER, page 9

Claremont to host Stock Series

WALPOLE, N.H. – Granite State Pro Stock Series officials announced on Thursday a 15-race schedule for the 2021 race season. The slate will bring drivers to three different New England states -- while visiting eight different tracks in one of the most complete schedules the series has ever offered for teams and fans.

The calendar is headlined by the annual Newport Chevrolet 150 at Claremont Motorsports Park, this time on Saturday, July 31 -- a \$10,000 to win show that is sure to draw the top Super Late Model talent in the region. The series will also make a debut at one of New England's most historic tracks and return to multiple staple facilities, with a mix of flat and banked tracks planned.

"We're thrilled with the way our schedule came together for the 2021 season," Mike Parks, president of the Granite State Pro Stock Series, said. "We always strive to get 14-16 races and we were able to accomplish it again. We think our competi-

tors and fans will enjoy it."

The season starts with the big debut in Connecticut. Granite State teams will compete at Stafford Motor Speedway for the first time as part of the annual NAPA Spring Sizzler weekend on Saturday, April 24 -- a one-day show. Pro Stocks are no stranger to the Arute-owned facility -- having run as a weekly division for decades -- but now, the touring stars will invade to compete with some of the local talent that are sure to find themselves a ride.

"To say we are thrilled to finally bring the Granite State Pro Stock Series to Stafford would be an understatement," Parks said. "This will be the icing on the cake to kickoff the Greatest Race in the History of the Spring, the annual NAPA Spring Sizzler. It's going to be an amazing event for our series and the track both."

Following Stafford, just one week later, Monadnock Speedway will host their first of two series events on Sunday afternoon, May 2 as part of their season-opening

Spring Dash weekend. Post-time for this event is 2 p.m., with the NHSTRA Modifieds, NELCAR Legends and more also on the card. A second stop at "Mad Dog" is slated for Saturday, September 4 as part of Labor Day weekend at the Winchester, New Hampshire, oval.

The series heads to Bobby Webber's Star Speedway for the first of two stops on Saturday night, May 8, before a return to the Star Classic weekend on Friday, September 17 comes in the thick of the championship battle. Last year, Derek Griffith and Joey Pole put together one of the best races in series history as part of the Classic at Star, which has become a staple track for the series.

Claremont Motorsports Park hosts their first of three dates on Memorial Day weekend as a Sunday evening special, May 30. Following the \$10,000 to win Newport Chevrolet 150 in July, an event won by Derek Griffith last year, the champion will be

See STOCK, page 9

Thunderbirds announce massive teddy bear donation

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds' Foundation is pleased to announce a donation of over 1,000 teddy bears and stuffed animals to local charitable partners, the culmination of a successful Drive-Thru Teddy Bear Toss presented by Teddy Bear Pools & Spas, that was held on Saturday, Dec. 12 outside of the MassMutual Center in downtown Springfield.

This morning, the Thunderbirds' mascot Boomer, along with staff members, made deliveries of hundreds of stuffed animals to Square One, Center for Human Development (CHD), Boys and Girls Club of Springfield, and the Boys & Girls Club, Family Center in Springfield.

"Our holiday celebrations are looking much different this year, but the Springfield Thunderbirds have proven that with a bit of creativity and careful

planning, the children in our community can still experience the magic of the season,” says Kristine Allard, Vice President of Development & Communications, Square One. “We are so grateful to Nate Costa and the entire Thunderbirds community for keeping the tradition of the Teddy Bear Toss alive. Our children will be overjoyed!”

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Teddy Bear Toss event was much different than previous years. Instead of tossing the bears onto the ice after the first T-Birds first goal during a home game in December, fans brought their new teddy bears or stuffed animals down and ‘tossed’ them out of their vehicles as part of the Drive-Thru Teddy Bear Toss at the MassMutual Center on the corner of Main St. and Bruce Landon Way. Boomer, the Nicebox Icebox, and front office staff were present to collect

donations and properly package and sanitize them. Those that couldn't make it that day also donated at the Thunderbirds office, at Teddy Bear Pools & Spas in Chicopee, the Springfield Visitor Center, or at New Valley Bank's new headquarters located in Monarch Place in downtown Springfield.

"The T-Birds and their loyal fans have again stepped up to bring holiday joy to children and families receiving services in CHD programs across western Massachusetts," said Ben Craft, CHD's Vice President of Community Engagement. "We deeply appreciate the Thunderbirds organization's partnership and strong commitment to our community, and we can't wait to get back to the arena to cheer them on when it's safe to do so."

The virtual and drive-thru version of the Teddy Bear Toss kicked off on

#GivingTuesday, the annual global movement that encourages people to do good and support nonprofits, encouraging fans that couldn't physically attend the event to donate to the Thunderbirds' Foundation and sponsor a bear. Over 250 bears were sponsored by local and national supporters of the Teddy Bear Toss through donations to the Thunderbirds' Foundation, including a significant number donated by Balise Auto Group.

Auto Group.
“We are amazed and grateful at the outpouring of support for the Drive-Thru Teddy Bear Toss” said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. “Teddy Bear Toss is a staple event for the Thunderbirds, and our fans came out in full support. We can’t thank our fans, partners, and those that donated to our Foundation enough to be able to bring smiles to children at this time of year.”

The Thunderbirds extend a special thank you to all of their partners that stepped up and were able to make this event a reality, including: Teddy Bear Pools & Spas, Balise Auto Group, Western Mass News, the Springfield Business Improvement District & downtown Visitor's Center, New Valley Bank & Trust and Dunkin'. The Thunderbirds also would like to thank their teddy bear delivery partner, BMW of West Springfield.

The Thunderbirds Teddy Bear Toss was established in 2016, whereby the Thunderbirds' first goal in the annual Teddy Bear Toss game results in a celebration of bears being thrown onto the ice. Since starting the tradition four seasons ago, the Thunderbirds have contributed more than 10,000 bears to local Springfield charities.



The Thunderbirds mascot tosses a teddy bear from a donor's car.



Despite the pandemic conditions, the Springfield Thunderbirds still held its annual teddy bear drive. *Submitted photos*



STOCK, from page 7

crowned at Claremont for the first time on October 16 as part of the track's Fall Challenge weekend.

Beech Ridge Motor Speedway in Maine will hold two Granite State events for the first time in track history -- with stops set for June 12 and August 14. Last year, the series hosted more than 30 cars as a mix of regulars and track favorites competed for glory in the inaugural stop at Beech Ridge -- a race won by Wyatt Alexander.

"We had so much success with our first appearance at Beech Ridge last year, the car count was fantastic and Andy and the staff there welcomed us and our teams for a great event," Parks said. "Going there twice should give us much of the same we saw in 2020."

Additional summer events include the annual stop at Riverside Speedway in Groveton, New Hampshire, on June 19 and the Sunday afternoon spectacular at Hudson Speedway on Sunday, July 11. Granite State teams will also stop at Lee USA Speedway twice -- both at some of the track's most historic race weekends. The first comes on Friday, July 2, celebrating Independence Day -- and the second will be on Sunday, October 3 as part of the season-ending Octoberfest.

There is one event that remains outstanding on the series schedule -- dated for Saturday, July 24 -- which is on track to be announced soon. Series officials are working on the final details surrounding that event and will announce once available.

The Granite State Pro Stock Series will have further updates surrounding the 2021 season when available. For more information, visit gpss.net and follow the series on social media.

2021 GRANITE STATE PRO STOCK SERIES SCHEDULE:

- April 24 -- Stafford Motor Speedway -- Stafford, Conn. -- 75 laps
- May 2 -- Monadnock Speedway -- Winchester, N.H. -- 100 laps
- May 8 -- Star Speedway -- Epping, N.H. -- 100 laps
- May 30 -- Claremont Speedway -- Claremont, N.H. -- 100 laps
- June 12 -- Beech Ridge Motor Speedway -- Scarborough, Maine -- 150 laps
- June 19 -- Riverside Speedway -- Groveton, N.H. -- 150 laps
- July 2 -- Lee USA Speedway -- Lee, N.H. -- 100 laps
- July 11 -- Hudson International Speedway -- Hudson, N.H. -- 100 laps
- July 24 -- TBA
- July 31 -- \$10k to Win -- Claremont Motorsports Park -- Claremont, N.H. -- 100 laps
- August 14 -- Beech Ridge Motor Speedway -- Scarborough, Maine -- 150 laps
- September 4 -- Monadnock Speedway -- Winchester, N.H. -- 100 laps
- September 17 -- Star Speedway -- Epping, N.H. -- 100 laps
- October 3 -- Lee USA Speedway -- Lee, N.H. -- 100 laps
- October 16 -- Claremont Motorsports Park -- Claremont, N.H. -- 100 laps

COUNCIL, from page 1

open to taking funds from the school department to balance the budget, but wanted to have further discussion with the involved parties, including Anthony Soto, who handles the school district's finances.

The schools are supposed to head back for hybrid learning in early 2021, but will not use the total funds budget-

ed for transportation, allowing the city to use some of the unused funds to balance the whole budget.

Councilors went through several scenarios and discussions about the tax rate and asked many questions of the administration before arriving on the tax rate that passed. The rate will be applied to property tax bills for 2021. It was the final action of the calendar year for the Holyoke City Council.

COVID, from page 1

classifications place communities in the red if they meet both a greater than 10 cases per 100,000 people and a positivity rate of above 4 percent.

The city itself is not taking any further precautions and is still trying to calmly navigate the situation as the COVID-19 vaccines begin to roll out.

Locally, some vaccinations have begun taking place at Holyoke Medical Center. Many staff and doctors have started receiving vaccinations. The vaccines were part of the initial distribution of Pfizer vaccines that were distributed to hospitals in Massachusetts.

Moderna's vaccine has been approved now and vaccines from both

companies will be coming to the city in the coming months.

Holyoke Medical Center will likely be receiving more vaccines to continue giving first doses to the rest of its staff. It is unclear where the Holyoke Soldiers' Home, which had one of the worst outbreaks in the country at a long-term care facility, will have its staff and residents vaccinated. Nearly 80 veterans living at the home died of COVID-19.

Testing continues to be available in the city as well, with two sites, one at Holyoke Community College and one on Appleton Street. Both sites are scheduled to remain going into the new year, both with increased staffing to meet demand.

LIBRARY, from page 1**Children's Room:**

\$150 can fund Virtual story times, Grab and Go activity bags, online learning tools such as

Miss Humblebees Academy and the Rocket Languages program.

History Room:

\$75 can help sponsor online lectures on local Holyoke history topics and expand access to genealogy websites such as Ancestry, Heritage Quest Online and more.

Teen Room:

\$50 can help fund Teen Book Bundles and Mad Science craft kits for home use.

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Pioneers to host Pelham clinic

LUDLOW -- Western United Pioneers FC is excited to offer a soccer clinic in Pelham, MA for players in the Massachusetts North Region. The fall clinic provides off-season training and skill development by WUP FC coaches. There are two sessions available. sign up for one or both. It makes a great holiday gift for friends and family members.

This program is offered to boys and girls born in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014. The four-week program includes one practice per week for a total of \$65 per session (\$130 for 2 sessions). Sessions will consist of a max of 15 players per field (COVID regulation for

the players' safety).

SESSION 1: MONDAYS 1/11, 1/25, 2/1, & 2/8

- Boys and Girls Born 2013 and 2014: Session is at 5 p.m.
- Boys and Girls Born 2010, 2011, and 2012: Session is at 6 p.m.

SESSION 2: MONDAYS 2/22, 3/1, 3/8, & 3/15

- Boys and Girls Born 2013 and 2014: Session is at 5 p.m.
- Boys and Girls Born 2010, 2011, and 2012: Session is at 6 p.m.

The sessions will be held at Pelham Elementary School at 45 Amherst Road, Pelham, MA 01002.

WINTER, from page 7

Belchertown, while it will allow swimming and basketball, hockey is not being allowed due to the fact the UMass practice rink, their home ice, is not available. Belchertown's school committee confirmed other options for Belchertown would be in communities that currently in the red status for being labeled "high-risk" for COVID-19 spread. Belchertown is one of the towns not allowed to play other schools that have the red designation.

Holyoke High School, which ceased its fall season on Oct. 21, is set to participate in the winter season with basketball and swimming, but can only do so if it gets out of the red by Dec. 24 and remains out of the red until the season

starts in January. It is possible the school will start late.

Other changes and decisions are still pending, though many schools have already opted to participate.

Pathfinder will participate in winter sports, but must find another venue due to the fact their gymnasium is currently being used as a cafeteria.

While the PVIAC has not made an official ruling on whether fans will be allowed in arenas, the MIAA's current guidance is to allow up to 40 percent of a gymnasium's capacity. However, the number of game participants (players, coaches, officials, etc.) count toward that 40 percent. Some schools, like the fall, could bar fans altogether in an effort to lower the spread while the current surge is still on.

In The News

Tighe & Bond is a finalist of their 2020 Engineering Excellence Award for the transformation of the Mt. Tom coal-fired power plant.

Submitted photo

AWARD, from page 1

Tighe & Bond's work with ENGIE North America (ENGIE) and the collaboration with other organizations has led to the completion of a very complex project that showcases what can happen when innovative engineering and a commitment to clean energy and environmental protection come together. The transformation of the coal-fired plant to a fully remediated and safe site has enabled ENGIE to move forward with its plan to use the property for future industrial/commercial/energy development. The completion of the solar and energy storage project in 2018 has continued to positively impact the City of Holyoke. In August of 2019, the City was recognized by educational non-profit Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA) as having the third most annual energy storage watt-hours per customer in the entire nation. Massachusetts has an evolving energy market, and with the completion of the Mt. Tom Project, ENGIE can now provide a model of success that can influence future solar and energy storage projects in the State and coal-fired power plant closures across the region.

Overall, the closure of the former

coal-fired power plant included two main concepts; transforming a former industrial site by demolishing the existing facility, remediating many areas of the property, and addressing over 50 acres of on-site coal ash while reusing a portion of the site for renewable energy generation and storage.

"The Engineering Excellence Awards program recognizes engineering firms for projects that demonstrate a high degree of achievement, value and ingenuity," said Jennifer Howe, President of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts and Principal and Vice President at SMMA, Symmes Maini & McKee Associates. "Entrants are rated by an independent panel of judges from the architectural community, the construction industry, academia, the media, and the public sector on the basis of uniqueness and originality; future value to the profession and perception by the public; social, economic and sustainable development considerations; complexity; and successful fulfillment of the client/owner's need, including schedule and budget. We congratulate them and thank them for their contributions to improving the quality of our everyday lives."

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SERVICES

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***NEW STATE LAW.** Anyone advertising caring of children must list a license number to do so if they offer this service in their own home.

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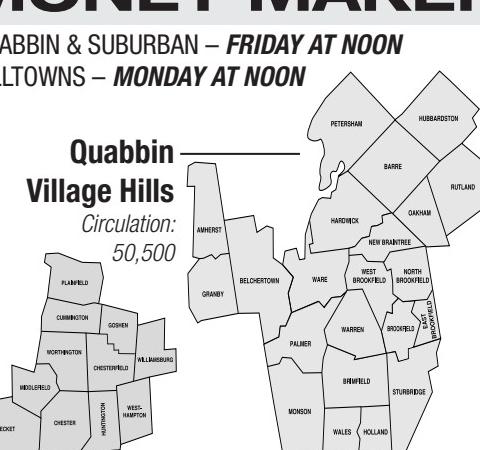
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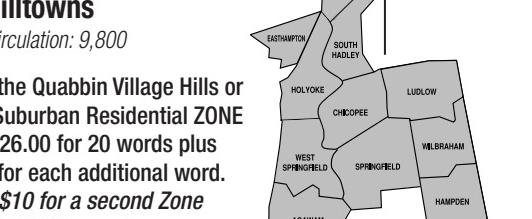
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Hilltowns



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Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

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Quabbin

Suburban

Hilltowns

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or call: 413-283-8393

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$28.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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WARM WEATHER IS Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

FOR RENT

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- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

In The News

HCC Foundation adds board members

HOLYOKE — HCC Foundation, Inc., the nonprofit fundraising arm of Holyoke Community College, has added seven new members to its Board of Directors and elected a new slate of officers.

At the HCC Foundation's annual meeting on Dec. 8, held over Zoom, the Foundation board voted in the following new directors for three-year terms, four of whom are HCC alumni:

- Nikki Burnett '91 of Springfield, executive director, Educare Springfield;
- Cynthia Shea Desroches '18 of South Hadley, treasurer/manager, Holyoke Postal Credit Union;
- Kip Foley, of Holyoke, entrepreneur;
- Deana McPherson '90 of Granville, chief Financial Officer, Smith & Wesson Brands, Inc.;
- Frank Newton of Chicopee, leader/teacher, Music Department, Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School;
- Israel Rivera '16 of Holyoke, area studies program manager / Center of Latin American, Caribbean and

Latino Studies, UMass Amherst;

- Michael Roundy of Westfield, attorney/partner, Bulkley, Richardson & Gelinas.

"We are thrilled to welcome this group of talented individuals to the HCC Foundation Board of Directors," said Amanda Sbriscia, HCC's vice president of Institutional Advancement and executive director of the HCC Foundation. "Their breadth and depth of expertise, along with that of our entire board, will have a tremendous impact on the Foundation's ability to make an immediate and lasting difference in our community."

Also at the Dec. 8 annual meeting, Corey Murphy of South Hadley, president of First American Insurance Agency, was elected board chair; Susan Goldsmith of Longmeadow, president of Marcus Printing, was elected vice chair; Meghan Parnell-Gregoire of Holyoke, vice president/business lending center manager for PeoplesBank, was elected treasurer; and John McAndrew of Holyoke, financial advisor for Edward Jones, was elected secretary.

Public Notices

at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/12/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection

appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 15, 2020
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
12/25/2020

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.



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EARLY DEADLINE For All Advertising & CLASSIFIEDS

To celebrate **CHRISTMAS**, the Advertising Deadline will be **NOON - FRI., DEC. 18** for the week of **Dec. 22-25**



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413-283-8393

To celebrate **NEW YEAR**, the Advertising Deadline will be **NOON - WED., DEC. 23** for the week of **Dec. 29-Jan. 1**



Early Deadlines

for all PUBLIC NOTICES...

to run the week of December 21-25, 2020:

- Thursday, Dec. 17 at NOON
The Register, Sentinel, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times, Agawam Advertiser News, Quaboag Current
- Friday, Dec. 18 at Noon
Barre Gazette, Country Journal, Ware River News
The Journal Register
- Monday, Dec. 21 at noon
Town Reminder, Chicopee Register and The Holyoke Sun
- Monday, Dec. 28 at noon
Town Reminder, Chicopee Register and The Holyoke Sun

Happy New Year!

to run the week of December 28 - January 1, 2021:

- Wednesday, Dec. 23 at noon
The Register, Sentinel, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times, Agawam Advertiser News, Quaboag Current, Barre Gazette, Country Journal, Ware River News
The Journal Register
- Monday, Dec. 28 at noon
Town Reminder, Chicopee Register and The Holyoke Sun

Happy Holidays!



Archer Robert Cameron

October 20, 2020

Parents: Matthew Cameron and Kieran Hart, Enfield, CT
Grandparents: Robert and Patricia Cameron, Holyoke
 David and Kathleen Hart, Holyoke

Benson William Hart

March 7, 2020

Parents: Greg and Nikki Hart, Chicopee
Grandparents: William and Deb Godek, Chicopee
 David and Kathleen Hart, Holyoke

Kai West

June 5, 2020

Parents: Tiffany Lemke and Kameron West, Chicopee
Grandparents: Diane Lemke, Chicopee, Luis Martinez, Springfield
 David Street and Pamela West, Monson



The Brightest Joy
 The Warmest Cheer
 The Greatest Happiness

May this Christmas bring you the best of everything!

Thank you for rooting for local businesses like us in 2020 and showing us so much support. We look forward to better times ahead as we work to serve you safely in 2021 and beyond!

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